

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SY-04 /072 W

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R 161111Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 799

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 013

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, U.K. (N.I.)

SUBJECT: TWENTY FIVE DETAINEES RELEASED.

1. NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE RELEASED TWENTY REPUBLICAN DETAINEES ONE A WOMAN AND FIVE LOYALIST DETAINEES JAN. 15. OFFICE ALSO OFFERED THREE-DAY "HOME LEAVE" NEXT WEEKEND TO FORTY REPUBLICANS AND TEN LOYALISTS. REPUBLICANS WILL REFUSE THESE PAROLES AS THEY HAVE CONSISTENTLY ACCEPTED ONLY COMPASSIONATE PAROLES FOR FAMILY DEATH OR SERIOUS SICKNESS. CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT FOR RELEASING SO FEW HAS COME FROM PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN AND LOYALIST PARA-MILITARY GROUPS. SINN FEIN VP MAIRE DRUMM ANALYZED CURRENT RATE OF RELEASE AS REQUIRING YEAR AND A HALF TO END INTERNMENT. PROTESTANT PARA-MILITARY BELIEVE THEIR EXTENDED CEASEFIRES DESERVE MORE TANGIBLE CONSIDERATION REFLECTED IN MORE RELEASE THAN SHORT DURATION PROVISIONAL IRA CEASEFIRE WARRANTS.

2. POLITICAL LOYALISTS NOT RPT NOT DIRECTLY CRITICAL OF RELEASES BUT DEMOCRATIC AND VANGUARD UNIONIST HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT PROVISIONAL IRA AWARE OF GOVERNMENT PLANS BEFORE PARLIAMENT LEARNS OF THEM. THESE GROUPS ALSO SEEKING ASSURANCES THAT DETAINEES MAKE COMMITMENT TO NON-VIOLENCE BEFORE RELEASE.

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REACTIVATED UNIONIST POLITICIAN ROY BRADFORD HAS PROPOSED THAT

CASE-BY-CASE STUDY BE MADE OF PRISONERS CONVICTED OF POLITICAL CRIMES. HE HAS INTERESTING AND LOGCAL THEORY THAT THERE IMBALANCE BETWEEN LONG SENTENCES FOR CONVICTED PROTESTANTS AND INDEFINITE DETENTION WILL PROMISE EARLY RELEASE FOR REPUBLICANS WHO DETAINED. BRADFORD DESCRIBES THIS POSSIBLE INJUSTICE AS PRODUCT OF CIRCUMSTANCES BY WHICH POLICE AND COURTS CAN FUNCTION NORMALLY IN PROTESTANT CASES WHILE INTEIMIDATION AND COMMUNITY HOSTILITY TOWARD AUTHORITIES HAVE IN PAST PRECLUDED TRIALS FOR REPUBLICAN SUSPECTS MAKING DETENTION NECESSARY.

3. PROVINCE GENERALLY PEACEFUL PAST TWO DAYS. TALKS BETWEEN DIFFERING ULSTER DEFENSE ASSOCIATION GROUPS POSTPONED UNTIL WEST BELFAST COMMANDER HARDING-SMITH RECOVERS TO PARTICIPATE. DATE BY PNEUMONIA IN LONG KESH MAZE PRISON OF DAVID MOYNE A 28 YEAR OLD REPUBLICAN DETAINEE GENERATING CONSIDERABLE INTEREST. THERE SOME CONCERN THAT AUTHORITIES NEGLECTED TREAT HIM ADEQUATELY FOR BRONCHIAL CONDITION.

4. MANY HERE PREDICT PROVISIONAL IRA WILL MAKE DECLARATION NOON LOCAL TIME THAT CEASEFIRE EXTENDED. THERE SOME APPREHENSION THAT EXTENSION WILL BE ONLY PERIOD ONE WEEK.  
SPICER

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